

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PORT O 02212 311822Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
IO-13 HA-05 MCT-02 DLOS-09 TRSE-00 OES-09 AID-05  
OMB-01 /112 W  
-----025709 010535Z /17  
R 311815Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2747

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 02212

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, RQ  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION ON PUERTO RICO

REF: A) STATE 188598; B) PORT OF SPAIN 02200

1. GIVEN DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING SUFFICIENTLY EARLY APPOINTMENT WITH MINEXTAFF PERMSEC BALLAH TO DISCUSS PUERTO RICO ISSUE WITH HIM PERSONALLY, AND CONSIDERING IT FAR LESS PRODUCTIVE TO RAISE THIS KIND OF MATTER AT ANY LOWER LEVEL IN GOTT, I TODAY HAD DELIVERED TO HIM THE FOLLOWING LETTER. WILL FOLLOW UP WITH PERSONAL REPRESENTATION ASAP. (TEXTS OF AIDES MEMOIRE ON OTHER SUBJECTS REFERRED TO IN LETTER ARE BEING PROVIDED IN FOLLOW-ON MESSAGES)

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR DOCTOR BALLAH: BECAUSE OF YOUR EXTREMELY BUSY SCHEDULE, I AM TAKING THE LIBERTY OF WRITING ABOUT THREE MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RAISE IMMEDIATELY WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT AT A HIGH LEVEL. THESE INVOLVE THE HANDLING OF PUERTO RICO IN THE UNITED NATIONS' COMMITTEE OF 24, SANCTIONS AGAINST COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT COOPERATE IN REPRESSING AIRCRAFT HIJACKINGS AND THE DEFINITION IN THE LAW OF THE SEA NEGOTIATIONS OF  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PORT O 02212 311822Z

THE OUTER SHELF WHERE IT EXTENDS BEYOND 200 MILES. AIDES MEMOIRE ARE ENCLOSED REGARDING THE LATTER TWO ISSUES.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE ROBERT BARRY AND I PRESENTED COPIES OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S JULY 25 PROCLAMATION TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO TO MESSRS. BADEN-SEMPER AND BLANCHFIELD AND MRS. DE OSUNA OF YOUR MINISTRY WHEN WE MET

WITH THEM LAST WEEK. I AM ENCLOSING ANOTHER COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

AS YOU KNOW THE COMMITTEE OF 24, OF WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IS A MEMBER, IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE UP THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO IN LATE AUGUST. THE MATTER, BEING A DOMESTIC ISSUE, CERTAINLY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TO BE OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP OF PUERTO RICO WITH THE UNITED STATES MAINLAND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND REAFFIRMED THROUGH ACTS OF SELF-DETERMINATION BY THE PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE. GOVERNOR ROMERO BARCELO, AS YOU ARE AWARE, HAS CALLED FOR A STATUS REFERENDUM TO BE HELD FOLLOWING THE 1980 ELECTIONS IN PUERTO RICO. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WILL SUPPORT WHATEVER STATUS THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO WISH, INCLUDING INDEPENDENCE. ANY REFERENDUM OF THIS KIND OBVIOUSLY SHOULD ALLOW THE PEOPLE INVOLVED TO EXPRESS THEIR PREFERENCES WITHOUT THEIR BEING SUBJECTED TO OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

THIS ISSUE IS OF VERY SUBSTANTIAL IMPORTANCE. IT IS HOPED THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL LEND ITS SUPPORT TO THE PROCEDURAL MOTION TO DEFER CONSIDERATION WHEN IT ARISES IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PORT O 02212 311822Z

AT YOUR CONVENIENCE, I WOULD APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS FURTHER WITH YOU THIS MATTER AND THE TWO SUBJECTS DEALT WITH IN THE ENCLOSED AIDES MEMOIRE.

I KNOW THAT AMBASSADOR FOX JOINS ME IN EXTENDING VERY BEST WISHES TO YOU. SINCERELY, JOSEPH E. O'MAHONY. END TEXT.

O'MAHONY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, LAW OF THE SEA, CONTINENTAL SHELF, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, SANCTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PORTO02212  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780314-0029  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PORT OF SPAIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t1978073/aaaaacjr.tel  
**Line Count:** 102  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 0b988a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 188598, 00 PORT OF SPAIN 2200  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1915211  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION ON PUERTO RICO  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, PLOS, EAIR, PINS, PEPR, RQ, US, TD, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/0b988a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014